

Alfred Water District

Annual Consumer Confidence Report of 2021 Operations

Many of you may have heard of PFAS contamination being detected in both public and private drinking water systems in the State of Maine. The Alfred Water District volunteered in 2019 to have our water tested for PFAS, the results came back as **undetectable for PFAS compounds**. The State of Maine recently passed a series of bills to address the PFAS problem in Maine in which part of the legislation requires all public water systems to test annually for PFAS. We did the mandatory test early in 2022 and again our water was **undetectable for PFAS compounds**. We hope this give all of you peace of mind that the water we produce is safe to consume.

During the year we do various maintenance operations on our Distribution System such as flushing mains through hydrants, painting hydrants and exercising valves to ensure they will work in an emergency. Part of valve exercising that involves the customer, is exercising the CURB STOP valve located on the customer's property. This valve is usually directly in front of your residence and if the valve is located in a lawn, it is usually under the surface and a small amount of turf will be removed and the valve will be briefly closed and opened to make sure it will operate in an emergency. We will then spray blue paint onto the top of the valve, and then the turf will be put back over the top of the CURB STOP. Finally we spray a stripe opposite the valve on the edge of the pavement to help us find your CURB STOP valve quickly. Over the years we have had several burst pipes in cellars that had to be shut off at the CURB STOP valve. The attached below pictures show examples of a CURB STOP valve and the stripe mentioned.



In the past some, customers have seen us exercising the CURB STOP valve and been upset that we were on their lawn but hopefully this will reassure you that this procedure is needed in case of an emergency or to assist a plumber either replacing the home owner's isolation valve or to secure the water when the isolation valve doesn't operate so the plumber can fix the problem.

If you have a billing question, call **324-3823** and you will be asked to leave a message. Both Savanna and I receive the message immediately and one of us will respond. If it's an **emergency call 432-3212**. We also have a web site that has information such as our Terms and Conditions, application forms and in the future photos and videos of some operations. Our website is: www.alfredwaterdistrict.com.

The next pages contain information on our treatment process and test results if you have questions or concerns you can call me at 432-3212.

PWSID ME0090020
ALFRED WATER DISTRICT
2021 Consumer Confidence Report

General Information

Water System Contact Name: Alfred Water District
Address: PO Box 803
City, State, Zip Code: Alfred, Maine 04002
Telephone #: 207-432-3212 Fax#: _____ Email: klsmart82@yahoo.com

Report Covering Calendar Year: Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2021

Upcoming Regularly Scheduled Meeting(s): 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month

Source Water Information

Description of Water Source: Wells: 2

Two shallow gravel packed wells.

Water Treatment & Filtration Information:

We filter out Iron and Manganese. We add Soda Ash to raise the pH and Chlorine for sanitizing water and to oxidize Iron in the filtration process

Source Water Assessment:

The sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, ponds, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from human or animal activity. The Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) has evaluated all public water supplies as part of the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The assessments included geology, hydrology, land uses, water testing information, and the extent of land ownership or protection by local ordinance to see how likely our drinking water source is to being contaminated by human activities in the future. Assessment results are available at town offices and public water systems.

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Running Annual Average (RAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at all locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): A 12 month rolling average of all monthly or quarterly samples at specific sampling locations. Calculation of the RAA may contain data from the previous year.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Units:

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L).

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L).

pos = positive samples.

MFL = million fibers per liter

Water Test Results

Contaminant	Date	Results	MCL	MCLG	Possible Sources of Contamination
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Microbiological

COLIFORM (TCR) (1)	2021	0 pos	1 pos/mo or 5%	0 pos	Naturally present in the environment.
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Radionuclides

COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	7/19/2021	0.7 pCi/l	5 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
RADIUM-228	7/19/2021	0.5 pCi/l	5 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits.

Lead/Copper

COPPER 90TH% VALUE (4)	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2021	0.187 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
LEAD 90TH% VALUE (4)	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2021	1 ppb	AL = 15 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) (9)	LRAA(2021)	13 ppb Range (13-13 ppb)	60 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANE (TTHM) (9)	LRAA(2021)	16.6 ppb Range (16.6-16.6 ppb)	80 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Chlorine Residual (Add chlorine residual information)

CHLORINE RESIDUAL	Range (.045 - 1.25 ppm)	MRDL=4 ppm	MRDLG= 4 ppm	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
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Notes:

- 1) Total Coliform Bacteria: Reported as the highest monthly number of positive samples, for water systems that take less than 40 samples per month.
- 2) E. Coli: E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.
- 3) Fluoride: For those systems that fluoridate, fluoride levels must be maintained between 0.5 to 1.2 ppm. The optimum level is 0.7 ppm.
- 4) Lead/Copper: Action levels (AL) are measured at consumer's tap. 90% of the tests must be equal to or below the action level.
- 5) Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health provider.
- 6) Arsenic: While your drinking water may meet EPA's standard for Arsenic, if it contains between 5 to 10 ppb you should know that the standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing it from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Quarterly compliance is based on running annual average.
- 7) Gross Alpha: Action level over 5 pCi/L requires testing for Radium 226 and 228. Action level over 15 pCi/L requires testing for Uranium. Compliance is based on Gross Alpha results minus Uranium results = Net Gross Alpha.
- 8) Radon: The State of Maine adopted a Maximum Exposure Guideline (MEG) for Radon in drinking water at 4000 pCi/L, effective 1/1/07. If Radon exceeds the MEG in water, treatment is recommended. It is also advisable to test indoor air for Radon.
- 9) TTHM/HAA5: Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids (TTHM and HAA5) are formed as a by-product of drinking water chlorination. This chemical reaction occurs when chlorine combines with naturally occurring organic matter in water. Compliance is based on running annual average.

All other regulated drinking water contaminants were below detection levels.

Secondary Contaminants (You are not required to list detects for secondary contaminants, but this information, particularly sodium levels, might be useful to your customers. The decision to supply this information in your CCR is up to you.)

SULFATE	13 ppm	6/8/2020
CHLORIDE	26 ppm	6/8/2020
MAGNESIUM	2.68 ppm	6/8/2020
NICKEL	0.001 ppm	6/8/2020
SODIUM	16 ppm	6/8/2020

Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at the following link:

<https://www.epa.gov/ccr/forms/contact-us-about-consumer-confidence-reports>

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Alfred Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at the following link:

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Violations

No Violations in 2021

Waiver Information (to be included in the CCR for systems that were granted a waiver)

In 2019, our system was granted a 'Synthetic Organics Waiver.' This is a three year exemption from the monitoring/reporting requirements for the following industrial chemical(s): TOXAPHENE/CHLORDANE/PCB, HERBICIDES, CARBAMATE PESTICIDES, SEMIVOLATILE ORGANICS. This waiver was granted due to the absence of these potential sources of contamination within a half mile radius of the water source(s).

Maine Drinking Water Program

Consumer Confidence Report Certification Form

PWSID#: ME0090020

Name of Public Water System: ALFRED WATER DISTRICT

Instructions:

1. Distribute copies of your Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to all users served by your public water system by **JULY 1ST**.
2. Check any method in the 1st column of the checklist below that you used to direct deliver your CCR (you must select at least ONE method from this column).
3. Check any method in the 2nd column of the checklist below that you used to reach consumers who may not have been reached by your 1st method (you must select at least ONE method from this column- if you are a small system and you believe your first method reached all consumers- such as in a small mobile home park- selecting "availability of paper copy" as your 2nd option is adequate).
4. Submit this form with a copy of the CCR distributed to consumers to the Maine Drinking Water Program by **OCTOBER 1ST**.

CHECK ALL APPLICABLE DISTRIBUTION METHODS (at least 1 option from each column):

Direct Delivery Method to each customer

- Mail paper copy
- Hand Deliver
- Mail notice that CCR is available on website via a direct URL (attach copy of notice i.e. bill)
www. _____
- Email direct URL
www. _____
- Email CCR as a file attachment
- Email CCR in message
- Publication of CCR in local newspaper (attach copy). Approval needed.
- Notify customers of availability of paper copy (only systems less than 500 people)

Good Faith Effort

to reach non-bill paying or other consumers

- Mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area (attach zip codes used).
- Delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons such as: apartments, businesses, and large private employers. Please list/attach copy.
- Posting on Internet at URL
www. _____
- Posting the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations).
- Publication of CCR in local newspaper (attach copy).
- Advertising availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of announcement).
- Delivery to community organizations (attach a list).
- Availability of paper copy

Certification of Distribution and Accuracy of Consumer Confidence Report

I certify that the information in the attached/enclosed CCR contains all data and required language found in the Fillable CCR provided by the Drinking Water Program and that the CCR was distributed by July 1st by the methods noted above.

Name of licensed designated operator: _____
Please print

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Date distribution completed: _____

Email CCR form and attachments to your Public Water System Inspector or mail to:
Maine Drinking Water Program, 11 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0011

****Your CCR must be available in paper copy to any consumer who requests it.**